

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 NIC-01 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /147 W

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R 142210Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6237

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

USUN NY 290

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 0602

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH
NORTH KOREA

1. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ANNOUNCED ON FEBRUARY 10 THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BETWEEN COSTA RICA AND NORTH KOREA. THE ANNOUNCEMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE NOGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN HELD AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK BETWEEN COSTA RICAN VICE-MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS FERNANDO SALAZAR NAVARRETE AND THE NORTH KOREAN PERMANENT OBSERVER TO THE UN. NO FURTHER DETAILS HAVE BEEN MADE PUBLIC.

2. SOUTH KOREA'S AMBASSADOR IN MEXICO CITY ACCREDITED TO COSTA RICA, ON INSTRUCTION FROM SEOUL, CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO ON FEBRUARY 13 FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE DIPLOMATIC STEP. ACCORDING TO CHANGNAM LIM, SOUTH KOREAN POLITICAL COUNSELOR WHO CALLED ON EMBOFF TODAY, FACIO TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT HE WOULD OPPOSE NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE RESIDENT IN SAN JOSE AND, FURTHERMORE, COSTA RICA WOULD NOT NAME AN AMBASSADOR
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TO NORTH KOREA. ON THE OTHER HAND, NORTH KOREA'S

PERMANENT OBSERVER AT THE UN WOULD BE NORTH KOREA'S
AMBASSADOR, RESIDENT IN NEW YORK, TO COSTA RICA.
ACCORDING TO LIM, FACIO FORESAW NO CHANGE WHATSOEVER
IN COSTA RICA'S POLITICAL ATTITUDE TOWARD NORTH KOREA
ARISING FROM THE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. LIM SAID THAT
AFTER THEIR TALKS WITH FACIO HE AND HIS AMBASSADOR HAD
CONCLUDED THAT THE COSTA RICAN RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA
WERE, IN LARGE PART, A RESULT OF FACIO'S EXPANSIVE EUPHORIA
WITH HOLDING THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.
HOWEVER, AS A SAFEGUARD AGAINST FURTHER NORTH KOREAN
INROADS, THE SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR WILL RECOMMEND TO
SEOUL THAT A SMALL EMBASSY BE ESTABLISHED IN EITHER
COSTA RICA OR GUATEMALA.
LANE

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